

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 IO-13 SSM-03 OMB-01 /079 W
-----250028Z 023937 /64

R 241456Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5383
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USIA WASHDC
NSC WHITE HOUSE

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USIA FOR IOP/M

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, EG, IS
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT CARTER MIDDLE EAST STATEMENTS RECEIVE WARM WELCOME

REF: CAIRO 8636

1. WHILE MAINTAINING UNITED FRONT OF SANG FROID ON
BEGIN ELECTION, FOUNDATION FOR EGYPTIAN POSTURE SEEMS
LARGELY TO BE COMFORT GOE FINDS IN NEARLY ALL ASPECTS
OF US PUBLIC POLICY ON MIDDLE EAST. RECENT STATEMENTS
ON MIDDLE EAST BY PRESIDENT CARTER, PARTICULARLY HIS
MAY 22 FOREIGN POLICY ADDRESS AT NOTRE DAME AND HIS MAY 20
COMMENTS TO EDITORS AND NEWS DIRECTORS, HAVE BEEN GIVEN
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WARM PUBLIC AND PRIVATE WELCOME. THROUGH BANNER HEAD-
LINES IN PRESS, GOE HAS DISPLAYED SATISFACTION WITH
DEPTH OF US COMMITMENT TO PURSUE MIDDLE EAST SETTLE-
MENT AND APPARENT IMMUTABILITY OF US VIEWS IN FACE OF
ISRAELI ELECTIONS. US DESIRES FOR RECONVENED GENEVA
CONFERENCE, INSISTENCE ON ISRAELI ADHERENCE TO PROVISIONS
OF UN RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338, AND CARTER VIEW THAT

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ALTERNATIVE TO FAILURE OF PEACE
EFFORTS HAVE ALL BEEN SEIZED UPON FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS
MILL. PRESS HAS NOT FAILED TO PUBLICIZE PRESIDENT
CARTER'S HOPE THAT LIKUD VICTORY WOULD NOT BE STEP BACK-
WARD FOR ACHIEVEMENT OF PEACE.

2. GOE HAS ALSO DECLARED ITSELF HIGHLY SATISFIED WITH
CARTER MESSAGE TO SADAT DELIVERED BY AMBASSADOR MAY 23.
BANNER HEADLINES OVER LARGE PHOTOGRAPHS OF AMBASSADOR
AND SADAT PROCLAIMED "US COMMITTED TO SETTLEMENT...
US COMMITTED TO ITS STAND TO BRING ABOUT PEACE...
CARTER CONFIRMS NECESSITY OF CONVENING GENEVA CONFERENCE
THIS YEAR REGARDLESS OF CHANGES IN ISRAELI LEADERSHIP."
FONMIN FAHMY SAID AS MUCH TO PRESS FOLLOWING ABOVE MEETING,
IN HIS USUAL (OFTEN EXCESSIVELY) UPBEAT MANNER, GOING
SO FAR AS TO SAY THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAD TOLD SADAT
THAT GENEVA CONFERENCE THIS YEAR WAS "INEVITABLE" IN
SPITE OF CHANGES IN ISRAELI LEADERSHIP.

3. MORE FAVORABLE LIGHT CAST ON US IN PUBLICITY GIVEN
VANCE/GROMYKO COMMUNIQUE OF MAY 21. STATEMENT WAS EX-
CEPTIONALLY WELL RECEIVED, WITH PRESS EMPHASIS CLEARLY
ON THE "VANCE". AGAIN, MAJOR SOURCE OF SATISFACTION IS
US COMMITMENT TOWARDS BRINGING ISRAEL TO TABLE AT
GENEVA, GRATIFYING REACTION TO AND SUPPORT FOR EGYPTIAN
INITIATIVES ON GENEVA. USSR ROLE, IF NOT SPECIFICALLY
MINIMIZED, LARGELY IGNORED EXCEPT IN TERMS OF RESPONSE TO
ARAB/US PEACE EFFORTS.

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4. SOPHISTICATED EGYPTIAN OBSERVERS HAVE PRIVATELY
REMARKED TO US THEIR SATISFACTION WITH THE CARTER STATE-
MENTS BECAUSE, FOLLOWING BEGIN ELECTION, IT "REASSURING"
TO SEE THAT PRESIDENT UNDETERRED FROM PURSUING HIS PRE-
VIOUSLY STATED POLICIES. IN GENERAL, THEY CONTINUE TO
BE OPTIMISTIC ON PROGRESS TOWARDS SETTLEMENT THIS YEAR.

5. COMMENT: IN LAST ANALYSIS EGYPTIAN OPTIMISM SEEMS
DERIVED FROM VIEW THAT CARTER STATEMENTS AND US DIPLOMACY
MEAN THAT USG IS IN FACT WILLING TO EXERT ON ISRAEL SOME
OF THE PRESSURE GOE BELIEVES NECESSARY TO BRING ABOUT
NEGOTIATIONS AND, FINALLY, PEACE IN THE AREA. EGYPTIANS
WILL BE LOOKING FOR MORE OF THE SAME AS DIPLOMATIC EVENTS
SCHEDULED FOR COMING MONTHS UNFOLD, NOTABLY FAHD VISIT
AND VANCE RETURN TO MIDDLE EAST. THEY WILL ALSO BE
NERVOUSLY AWAITING EVIDENCE OF US STEADFASTNESS IN PRONOUNCEMENTS
CONNECTED TO BEGIN'S EXPECTED VISIT TO
WASHINGTON. DESPITE EVIDENT NEED FOR CONTINUED REASSURANCE,
HOWEVER, THERE NO PUBLIC INDICATION THAT MORE FORWARD

US POSITION IS EXPECTED OR NECESSARY.

EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
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Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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